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LINCOLN'S GETTYSBURG
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LINCOLN'S GETTYSBURG ADDRESS

Dedicating the Gettysburg Battlefield as a National Cemetery for Union Soldiers on November 19, 1863

"Four score and seven years ago our fathers brought forth on this continent a new nation, conceived in liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal.

"Now we are engaged in a great civil war, testing whether that nation, or any nation so conceived and so dedicated, can long endure. We are met on a great battlefield of that war. We have come to dedicate a portion of that field as a final resting-place for those who here gave their lives that that nation might live. It is altogether fitting and proper that we should do this.

"But, in a larger sense, we cannot dedicate—we cannot consecrate—we cannot hallow—this ground. The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here have consecrated it far above our poor power to add or detract. The world will little note nor long remember what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here. It is for us, the living, rather, to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they who fought here have thus far so nobly advanced. It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us—that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion; that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain; that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom; and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth."

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WINFIELD SCOTT

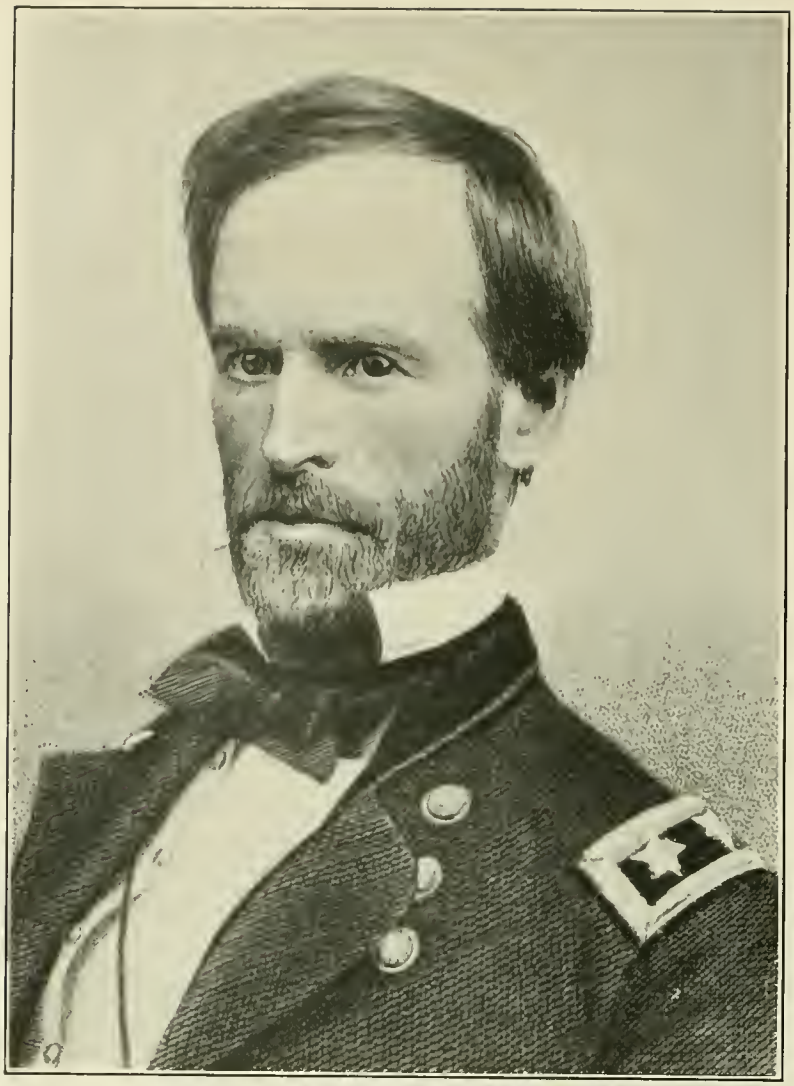
Lieutenant-General and Commander-in-Chief of the United States Army in the war with Mexico during the years 1846, 1847 and 1848, and founder of the Soldiers' Home, Washington, D. C.

GENERAL PHILIP H. SHERIDAN

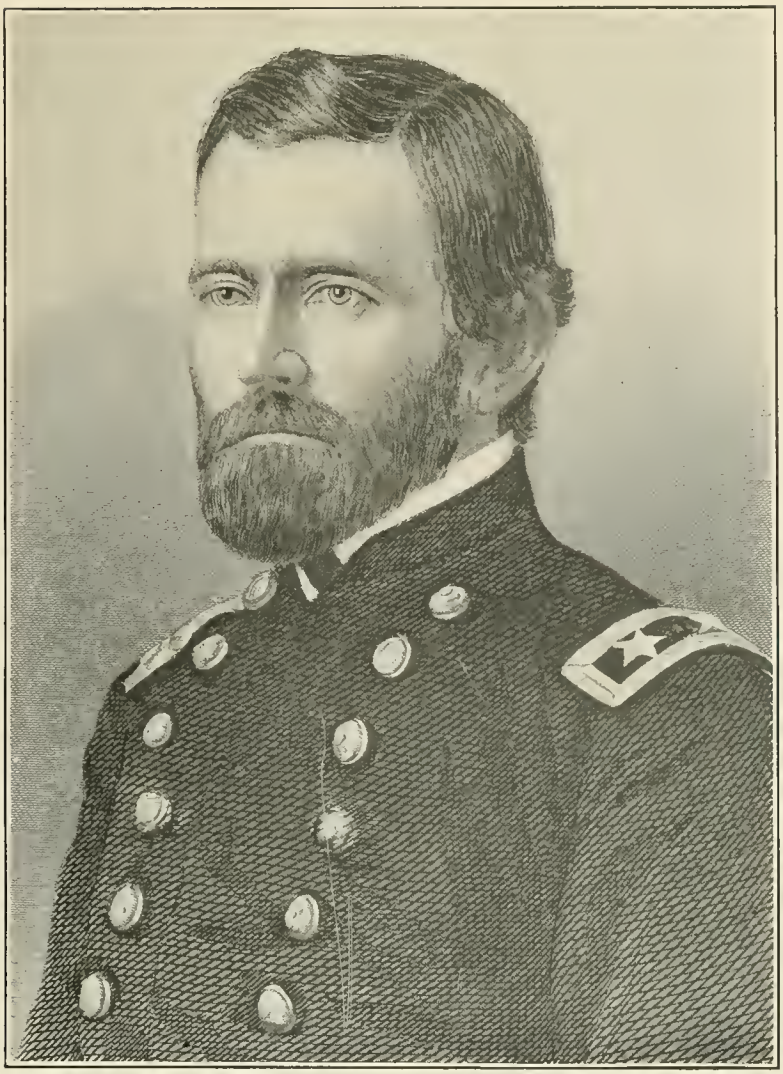
SHERIDAN'S RIDE

[During General Sheridan's temporary absence his troops in the Shenandoah Valley were surprised and routed by the Confederates under General Early. The Union commander hurried to the front in time to rally his forces and turn defeat into victory.]

But there is a road from Winchester town,
A good broad highway leading down;
And there, through the flush of the morning light,
A steed as black as the steeds of night,
Was seen to pass, as with eagle flight;
As if he knew the terrible need
He stretched away with his utmost speed;
Hills rose and fell; but his heart was gay,
With Sheridan fifteen miles away.
The first that the General saw were the groups
Of stragglers, and then the retreating troops;
What was done? what to do?—a glance told him both;
Then, striking his spurs with a terrible oath,
He dashed down the line 'mid a storm of huzzas,
And the wave of retreat checked its course there, because
The sight of the master compelled it to pause.
With foam and with dust the black charger was gray;
By flash of his eye and his red nostrils' play
He seemed to the whole great army to say:
"I have brought you Sheridan all the way
From Winchester down to save the day!"



GENERAL WILLIAM T. SHERMAN



GENERAL U. S. GRANT

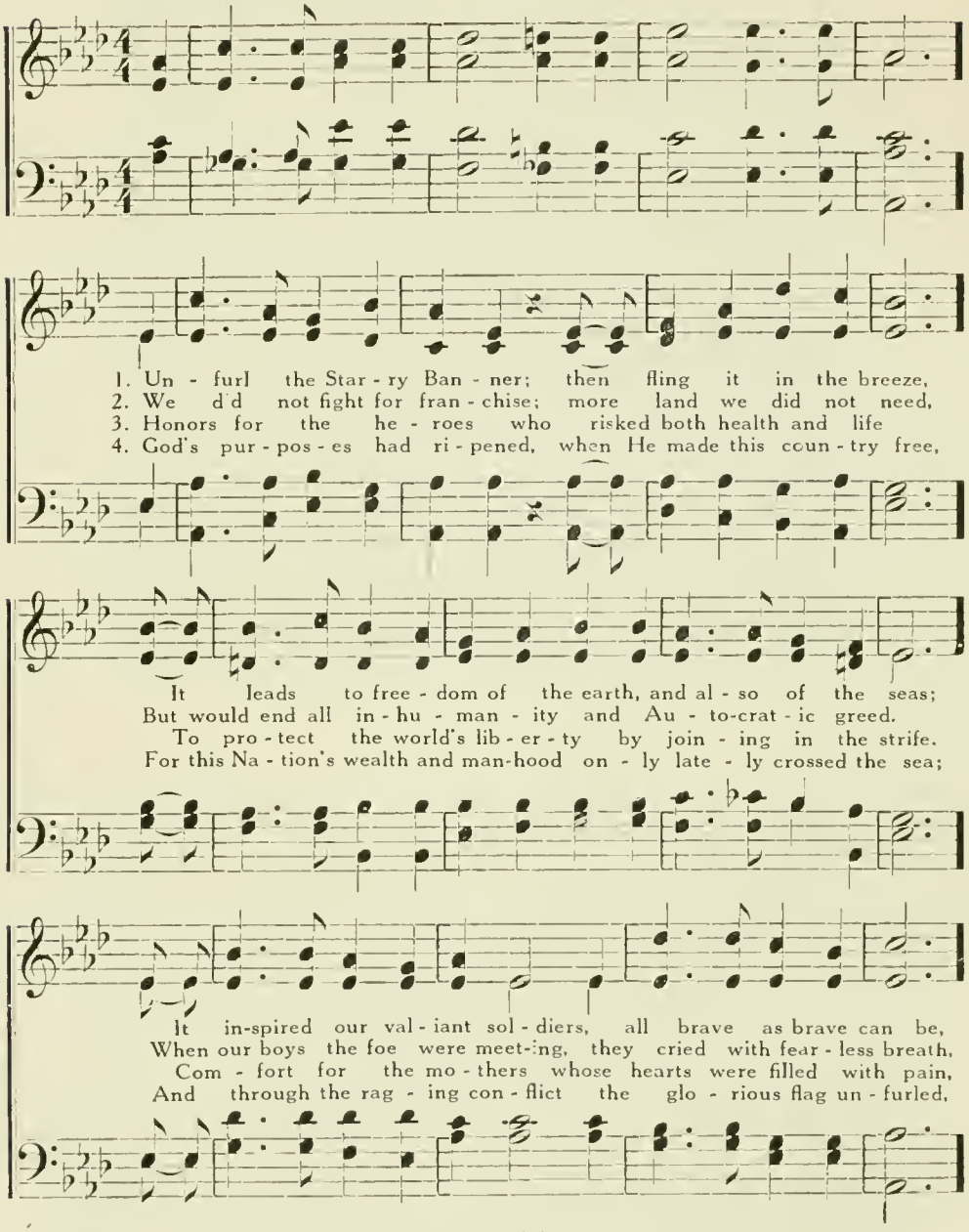
A WORLD WAR SONG

THE STARRY BANNER.

Words by
WILLIAM HARMAN,
A Veteran of the Mexican and Civil Wars.

Music by
C. HAROLD LOWDEN.

Introduction.


1. Un - furl the Star - ry Ban - ner; then fling it in the breeze,
2. We d'd not fight for fran - chise; more land we did not need,
3. Honors for the he - roes who risked both health and life
4. God's pur - pos - es had ri - pened, when He made this coun - try free,
It leads to free - dom of the earth, and al - so of the seas;
But would end all in - hu - man - ity and Au - to-crat - ic greed.
To pro - tect the world's lib - er - ty by join - ing in the strife.
For this Na - tion's wealth and man-hood on - ly late - ly crossed the sea;
It in-spired our val - iant sol - diers, all brave as brave can be,
When our boys the foe were meet-ing, they cried with fear - less breath,
Com - fort for the mo - thers whose hearts were filled with pain,
And through the rag - ing con - flict the glo - rious flag un - furled,

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THE STARRY BANNER.—Concluded.

Who fought and won those bat - tles for true de-moc - ra - cy.
"March on!" the ban - ner lead - ing to vic - to - ry or death;
At part - ing from the dear ones they might never meet again.
Giv - ing triumph to our sol - diers, and peace to all the world,
Wave free our Count-try's Em - blem; let all na - tions view
Wave high our Na - tion's Ban - ner; let the world take view
Cheers for the Ban - ner, with pleas - ure to re - peat,
Swing high our grand Old Glo - ry; let nations now review
The Flag that led to World Peace, the Red, White and Blue—
The Flag that led to World Peace, the Red, White and Blue—
That it often led to vic - tory, but nev - er to de - feat—
The Flag that led to World Peace, the Red, White and Blue—
The Flag that led to World Peace, the Red, White and Blue.
The Flag that led to World Peace, the Red, White and Blue.
That it often led to vic - tory, but nev - er to de - feat—
The Flag that led to World Peace, the Red, White and Blue.

BRIGADIER-GENERAL D. S. STANLEY

GENERAL JOHN A. LOGAN

THE HOSPITAL

THE HOLSTEIN HERD AT THE SOLDIERS' HOME

THE CHURCH, SOLDIERS' HOME

GENERAL JOHN J. PERSHING

WILLIAM HARMAN

A Veteran of the Mexican and Civil Wars, in His 93rd Year

A STATEMENT OF A VETERAN

IN REGARD TO

THE SOLDIERS' HOME AT WASHINGTON, D. C.

THERE is an impression prevalent among a large number of persons that the cost of the Soldiers' Home at Washington, including the purchase of over 500 acres, the erection of many handsome buildings and the expense of maintaining same, has been met by appropriations from Congress. As a matter of fact, Congress has never been called on to appropriate a cent. The necessary funds for the purchase and maintenance of the Home dates back to the Mexican War. The close of this war found General Winfield Scott in command. Quite an indemnity was obtained from Mexico, and turned over to the United States treasury by General Scott. This indemnity, with accumulated interest, had increased to quite a sum by the year 1851, at which time land was purchased and the building for the home commenced. In addition to the sum obtained from the Mexican indemnity, quite a large fund is secured by an assessment of 25 cents per month from every enlisted man of the regular army. So fast did this fund grow that by the year 1910 there was a balance of over $7,000,000 on hand. Many beautiful buildings have been erected, the Grant building alone costing nearly $2,300,000. So the Home is not only self-supporting but has a large balance to its credit. The income being deemed more than sufficient, the assessment of the soldier was reduced about one-half in the year 1900, and later on was discontinued entirely.

MOTHER, DEAR

BEARING with patience and deepest affection
Our often-times waywardness, our hate of correction,
Guarding us, guiding us, leading and teaching,
When most rebellious, still for our hearts reaching.
Faithful at all times, helping us ever,
In all our distresses, failing us never.
Busy with thoughts for our comfort and joy,
Work never ceasing her hands to employ,
Early and late, still performing her duty,
Showing to us only sweetness and beauty.

Alas! how we often have brought to her grief,
Have wounded her heart beyond human relief.
Made heavier the burden that she had to bear,
That has furrowed her brow and has silvered her hair.

Vain is our sorrow, we cannot retrace
The paths we have trod, no tears can efface
The words we regret, and the acts we deplore
May not now be altered, remain evermore.
But the joy and the comfort she ever hath shed
Remain, and their halo seems crowning her head.

New loves we may have and new joys, but no other
Like those we have had in our dear patient mother.
Our life-waves may brighten, may shine and may glisten
Like the moon on the water, but vainly we listen
To hear the loved voice as we used to of yore.
Not a whisper is wafted from off the far shore,
And only to memory the answer is given:
"Be faithful, my dear ones, and meet me in heaven."

No tongue ever spoke that can utter the whole
Of the story of Mother love; only the soul
In its innermost depths has erected a shrine,
And before it is light that is almost divine.
Speech falters, words fail, and we cannot express
Nor do we much care, for all would be less
And fail to convey what hearts only can know,
For words are too feeble when hearts overflow.

Then you who have Mother still with you here,
Prize her more tenderly, hold her more dear,
For the sweetest and purest and tenderest love
Is the Mother love sent to us straight from above.
With fervent thanks to God above
For World's peace and mother's love

OFFICIAL HISTORY

OF

U. S. SOLDIERS' HOME

WASHINGTON, D. C

In the United States the founding of a Soldiers' Home dates from March 3, 1851, when an act of Congress was passed and approved "to found a military Home for the relief and support of invalid and disabled soldiers of the army of the United States."

The home for the regular army was established in the District of Columbia in 1851-'52. It is located about three miles due north from the Capitol in the city of Washington. The original purchase of land was 256 acres. To this was added in subsequent years up to 1869 about 16 acres, and in 1872 the adjoining estate of "Harewood," containing 191 acres, was purchased from W. W. Corcoran, Esq., of Washington. Small additional tracts have been purchased since, making a total of 500¾ acres in the Home property.

The commissioners of the Home paid altogether for the 500 acres of the Home land $326,354.55.

It is to be noted that prior to the purchase and occupation of the original tract of 256 acres, the Board of Commissioners rented one of the houses west of the Winder Building on 17th Street in Washington, for the reception of men entitled to the benefits of the Military Asylum, and the house was opened for beneficiaries December 24, 1851.

The principal building for inmates is of white marble, the south part is named after General Winfield Scott, the founder of the Home, the addition on the north after General W. T. Sherman.

The old homestead building near to, and west of, the Scott Building, is named after General Robert Anderson of Fort Sumter renown, to commemorate the fact of his early advocacy of and great interest in the establishment of the Home. It was the Home of the first inmate, and it has frequently been used as the summer residence of the President. President Buchanan occupied it in 1856-'60; President Lincoln in 1861-'64; President Hayes in 1877-'80; President Arthur in 1882-'84. President Garfield thought of occupying it in the summer of 1881.

The eastern building was the first erected especially for inmates and is called the King Building, after Surgeon B. King, for thirteen years the attending surgeon and secretary and treasurer of the Home

The brick quarters northeast of the Sherman Building, erected in 1883, is named the Sheridan Building in honor of General Philip H. Sheridan, who was president of the Board of Commissioners when the building was erected. In addition to these buildings a new mess hall and dormitory and a building of white marble has been recently constructed, which was occupied July 12, 1910. It is named the Grant Building, in memory of General U. S. Grant.

There are now six sets of commodious quarters, with capacity for accommodating over 1,000 inmates.

A portion of the spacious grounds of the Home (about 140 acres) is cultivated for the benefit of the inmates; but the largest part is woodland, and through it all, taking advantage of its topography, nearly ten miles of graded and macadamized roads have been constructed, winding through groves of selected trees of native and foreign varieties and over the open ground, commanding fine views of the city, the Potomac River, and the surrounding country for miles.

A neat chapel, built of red stone, was completed in 1871. Religious worship, Protestant and Roman Catholic, is regularly observed.

The hospital is modern in all its appointments with a capacity to care for 300 patients. It is not only for the sick, but is an infirmary for the aged and helpless inmates. A beautiful marble theatre was erected in 1897.

The Home is supplied with a library of over 11,000 volumes, and with newspapers and magazines, both foreign and domestic.

In 1874 a heroic statue in bronze of Lieutenant-General Winfield Scott, executed by Launt Thompson, of New York, was erected upon the most prominent point in the grounds.

The officers of the Home are a governor, a deputy-governor, a secretary and treasurer, who are appointed from retired officers by the President of the United States, and a medical officer is detailed from the active list of the army.

The dairy keeps an average of 88 cows, 32 heifers and 30 calves, most of the cows being pure Holstein, famous for both quality and quantity in milk and beef.

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